Michigan Manual 2011-2012

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF JUSTICES¹



CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERT P. YOUNG, JR.

Term expires January 1, 2019

Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr. has been a member of the Michigan Supreme Court since 1999. Before joining the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Young served as a judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals.

Chief Justice Young graduated in 1974 from Harvard College with honors and from Harvard Law School in 1977. In 1978, he joined the law firm of Dickinson, Wright, Moon, Van Dusen & Freeman, becoming a partner in the firm in 1982. From 1992, until he joined the Court of Appeals, Chief Justice Young was the vice president, corporate secretary, and general counsel of AAA Michigan.

Chief Justice Young has had significant involvement in numerous civic and charitable activities during his career. In addition to his varied community activities, which include being a member of the Advisory Board of the United Community Services of Metropolitan Detroit and a trustee of the Grosse Point Academy, University Liggett School and Cranbrook Schools, Chief Justice Young is most proud of his service as a trustee of charitable and civic organizations devoted to the interest of children such as the Detroit Institute of Children, Vista Maria, the Detroit Historical Society, and the Governor's Task Force on Children's Justice Concerning Child Abuse and Neglect. Chief Justice Young is also a former commissioner of the Michigan Civil Service Commission, a former trustee of Central Michigan University, and a former chair of the Greater Detroit Chamber of Commerce Leadership Detroit program. He has served on the boards of many other civic organizations.

Chief Justice Young is a frequent lecturer on judicial philosophy and the role of courts in our constitutional Republic. He has been an adjunct professor at Wayne State University Law School for more than 20 years and is a co-editor of *Michigan Civil Procedure During Trial, 2d Ed.* (Michigan Institute of Continuing Legal Education, 1989), *Michigan Civil Procedure*, (Michigan Institute of Continuing Legal Education, 1999) and is the author of a book chapter, "Active Liberty and the Problem of Judicial Oligarchy," in *The Supreme Court and the Idea of Constitutionalism* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009), as well as "A Judicial Traditionalist Confronts Justice Brennan's School of Judicial Philosophy," in the Oklahoma City University Law Review (2008) and "A Judicial Traditionalist Confronts the Common Law," in the Texas Review of Law & Politics (2004).

In 2001 and 1999, Chief Justice Young was awarded honorary degrees respectively from Michigan State University and Central Michigan University. In 1999, Chief Justice Young was named Detroit Country Day School's Alumni of the Year.

Chief Justice Young has been married for more than 30 years to his college sweetheart and is the father of 2 adult sons.

¹ Source for biographies: http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/AboutCourt/biography.htm